

WOMEN IN ECONOMICS

Esther Duflo



Esther Duflo (France, 1972) received her PhD in Economics from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) in 1999 on Empirical Development Economics. Since 2005 she is *Abdul Latif Jameel* Professor of Economics and co-founder and co-director of the *Abdul Latif Jameel Poverty Action Lab (J-Lab)* at MIT. She is also a World Economic Forum Young Global Leader and has received honors including the Princesa de Asturias in Social Sciences (2015), Infosys Prize (2014), the David N. Kershaw Award (2011), a John Bates Clark Medal (2010) and a MacArthur “Genius Grant” Fellowship (2009).

Her research areas include health, education, financial inclusion, environment and governance. Duflo’s work has focused on designing social policy to improve the lives of the poor. Her 2011 book, written with Abhijit Banerjee, argued for a radical rethinking of the economics of poverty and the policies aimed at alleviating it and won the Financial Times and Goldman Sachs Business Book of the Year Award in 2011.

*“It is not easy to escape from poverty, but a sense of possibility and a little bit of well-targeted help can sometimes have a surprisingly large effect”**

*Poor Economics: A Radical Rethinking of the Way to Fight Global Poverty. New York: Public Affairs, 2011